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A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

for the

R U R A L D I S T R I C T O F H O L Y W E L L.

: : FOR THE YEAR. : :

1 9 3 9.

H O L Y W E L L R U R A L D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L.

To :-

The Chairman and Members of the
HOLYWELL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mrs Hoggarth and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1939.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS INCLUDING CHIEF INDUSTRIES.

The district is chiefly agricultural, there are lead mines, quarries, coal and iron. Unemployment has diminished.

Area in acres	58,550.
Population.(estimated 1938)	20,450.
No. of inhabited houses.	7,029.
Rateable value.	£74,930.
Sum represented by 1d rate.	£276.

VITAL STATISTICS.

These have not been received from the Registrar General. According to instructions from the Ministry of Health in their Circular dated July 19th 1940 an abbreviated report is hereby submitted for consideration.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Public Health Officers of the Authority.

(a) Medical Officer of Health (Part Time)

I. PHILLIPINE NELIS. L.R.C.P. & S.I., D.P.H.

(b) Sanitary Inspectors. (Whole Time)

R. D. JONES, C.R.S.I.
Member of the Institute of Municipal & County Engineers

A. O. GRIFFITHS, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Certified Inspector.(Meat & Foods)

D. O. M. JONES, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

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(a) LABORATORYFACILITIES.

When required this is carried out by the Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service, Conway, and the Pathological Department of the Chester Royal Infirmary.

(b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Are yet poor for this district, and where Hospitals for serious cases are all distant, this is a grave matter for those persons who are critically ill or seriously injured,

The loan of an Ambulance from the destinations in Liverpool or Chester etc. is often costly, and the delay to great, even when available.

(c) NURSING IN THE HOME

Voluntary organisations provide existing facilities.

(d) TREATMENT CENTRES & CLINICS.

Administered by the Flintshire County Council.

(e) HOSPITALS.

There is no hospital in the area.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.

The following Companies supply water within the District.

BRYMBO WATER CO.
HAWARDEN & DISTRICT WATER CO.
MOLD GAS & WATER CO.
BIRKENHEAD CORPORATION (supplied to the Council in bulk.)

The Council have also supplies of their own, and a number of short extensions were carried out during the year,

Schemes for the re-laying of larger mains at Mostyn, Penyffordd and Ffynnongroew, were approved by the Ministry of Health and have been completed.

WATER ANALYSIS.

Sent for Bacteriological Examination... ...	18.
Result of Analysis.	
Satisfactory.	11.
Unsatisfactory.	7.

All supplies and sources have been satisfactory as regards quality and quantity.

The Council have decided to provide a third pumping unit at the Rhosesmor Pumping Station.

SEWERAGE AND SEWERAGE DISPOSAL.

All sewers and outfall works have bee well maintained.

Sewerage schemes and disposal works at Leeswood and Gwernaffield received the approval of the Ministry of Health, and the work on these is now well in hand.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

In non-sewered areas the pail system is adopted. In district where sewers have been laid the pail system has been superceded by the water carriage system in many instances.

All new houses have water closets and are connected to the sewer where possible, or connected to watertight cess-pools.

During the year 27 pail closets were converted into water closets and 57 houses connected to sewers.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Scavenging is undertaken by the Council, the district being divided up into 15 separate areas for this purpose. The work is carried out by contract. With the exception of district No.8, the work was carried out satisfactory.

With reference to district No.8, the scavenging was so badly done that it was found necessary to dispense with the

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No complaints have been received relating to the pollution of rivers and treams.

SHOPS INSPECTION.

All shops in the district are regularly inspected, and the statutory provisions relating thereto are enforced. Notices have been served upon occupiers where it was found that the sanitary accommodation was insufficient and that washing facilities were inadequate. All notices served were complied with.

CAMPING SITES.

Sites used for camping in this district number about 40, the majority of these are used for periods of less than 42 consecutive days and less than 60 days in the year,

On the whole these sites are all well maintained and supervised. Camping sites in respect of which licences were issued numbered 17. These sites were inspected regularly, about once a week, and every effort was made to see that no nuisance arose therefrom. It must be added that the owners of the sites, with the exception of one did their utmost to keeep the sites in a clean condition.

Where any slackness on the part of the owner of the site was observed, the threat of refusal to grant a licence in the future had the desired effect.

It is estimated that between 3,000 and 4,000 persons were camping in the district during August Bank Holiday Week, one camp alone housing 2,000 persons.

There are several camps run by various organisations in this district, which are kept in a very satisfactory condition.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

In spite of the fact that there are many factories in this district, no complaints of smoke nuisance have been received.

SWIMMING POOLS AND BATHS.

There is only one swimming pool in the district. It is privately owned and open only during the summer months.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

No complaints relating to the above were received during the year, and no evidence of bugs was found while carrying out housing inspections.

SCHOOLS.

All schools are periodically inspected. The majority are provided with pail closets, but where sewers have been laid conversion to the water closets is to be carried out.

Generally conditions were found to be satisfactory and where any nuisance was found to exist it was reported and the matter remedied.

SECTION. D.

HOUSING INSPECTION.

During the year housing took up a great deal of the time of the Public Health Department. It was decided by the Council that a survey of the district shall be made of the Inspectors with a view to operating the slum clearance provisions of the Housing Act. A considerable number of houses were inspected under the scheme, and schedules were prepared of houses to be demolished.

In addition to this scheme, the usual inspections of premises to ascertain the existance of nuisances were carried out, and notices, formal and informal, relating to the repairing of houses for the working classes were served upon the owners. All notices were complied with.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.
MILK SUPPLY. COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.

Inspection of the majority of cowsheds and dairies was carried out during the year,

On the whole milk is produced in a satisfactory manner, as the analytical results of samples show. There are a few producers who do not pay enough attention to cleanliness of themselves or the utensils used, and these persons are kept under close observation.

Structural improvements have been carried out to a number of cowsheds and dairies relating particularly to drainage systems, lighting, ventilation, and addition of water supply.

There are 105 producers of Accredited Milk and 8 producers of Tuberculin Tested Milk in the district.

32 Samples of Milk were taken during the year, and sent for bacteriological analysis. Two samples showed a rather high bacterial content. Other samples were satisfactory.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

All slaughterhouses and butchers shops were visited regularly. Every effort is made to see that all carcasses are examined before being exposed for sale.

All places where food is produced, stored, or exposed, on or for sale have been visited during the year, and generally were found to be quite satisfactory.

During the year the following carcasses were examined and found to be fit for human consumption

	Cattle, excluding Cows.	Cows.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs.	Calves.
Number inspected.	348.	41.	1,831.	514.	68.
All animals except Tuberculosis whole carcasses condemned.		1.	13.		
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	12.		80.		
Tuberculosis only. Whole carcasses condemned.	2.	2.		15.	
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	2.	2.		10.	

SALUGHTERHOUSES.

The facilities for the supply of meat fall short in every way from the high standard reached in this district.

Until the transfer to an Urban area, humane killing was the rule for all animals, and here again retropade methods are in operation.

The unification should be possible with improvements, especially as the initial difficulties could now have been overcome.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The rising incidence of Diptheria is noteworthy, otherwise Infectious Diseases were not remarkable

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INFECTIOUS DISEASES

AGE PERIODS.	UNDER 1.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	10.	15.	20.	35.	45.	65.	Total.	Cases sent to hospital	Deaths.	Rate.
DISEASES.																
Diptheria		2.	1.	2.	1.	12.	8.	4.	4.	1.			35.	24.	1.	1.71.
Scarlet Fever.		2.		2.	3.	21.	9.	2.	10.	3.			52.	9.		2.54.
Puerperal Pifrexia.									4.				4.	1.	1.	0.19.
Erysipelas.									1.	2.	2.	1.	6.	2.	1.	0.29.
Pneumonia.					1.	1.			1.	3.	8.	7.	21.	1.	14.	1.02.
Enteric Fever.									1.				1.	1.		0.04.
Measles.				1.		1.							2.			0.09.
TOTALS.		4.	1.	5.	5.	35.	17.	6.	21.	9.	10.	8.	121.	38.	17.	5.91.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Ages.	NEW CASES Respiratory. M.	NEW CASES Respiratory. F.	NEW CASES Non-Respiratory. M.	NEW CASES Non-Respiratory. F.	DEATHS. Respiratory. M.	DEATHS. Respiratory. F.	DEATHS. Non-respiratory. M.	DEATHS. Non-respiratory. F.
0.								
[illegible]			1.					
[illegible]		1.	1.	1.				
15.	4.	5.	1.	1.	1.	3.		
25.	4.	3.			2.			
35.					2.			
45.	1.	2.			1.	2.		
55.	1.				1.			
65 upwards.	2.	1.						
	12.	12.	3.	2.	7.	5.		

Rate. - 1.41.
Death Rate. - 0.58.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Cases Notified.	Treatment at Home.	In Hospital.	Vision Unimpaired.	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness.	Death.
Nil.	-	-	-	-	Nil.	Nil.

All cases have been notified, and there has been no cause for action.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

This is administered by the County Council.

(Signed) I. PHILLIPINE NELIS.
Medical Officer of Health.

Holywell Rural District Council.

The Manse,
MOLD.

September, 11th,1940.